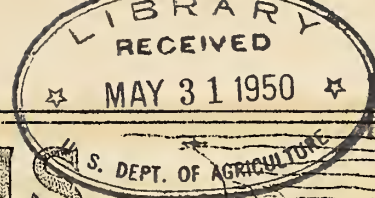


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SELF-DECEPTION

By E. L. Perry, R.O.

Naturalists have long since exploded the popular belief that the ostrich seeks to hide from danger by thrusting its head into the sand, and perhaps it gained credence to begin with only because that is one of the most widespread of human weaknesses. Probably self-deception is practiced by everyone to some extent; possibly a certain amount of it is sometimes necessary to preserve sanity or to save self-respect. But taken as a whole, it constitutes a tremendous drag - possibly the most important one - on human progress. Men who are least addicted to it become the captains of industry, top politicians, upper-crust scientists. Those most addicted to it are never able to rise because they are never willing to face unpleasant facts. They prefer to believe that the boss was not as mad as he sounded during the bawling out, that a champagne scale of living can somehow be made compatible with a beer income, that things will somehow "take a turn for the better."

One of its tragic aspects is that up to a certain point, at least, the manifestations of self-deception are likely to be applauded. All too often the "optimist" is merely a fellow who is making a virtue of refusing to admit that disaster's hot breath is on his neck, when he would better be frankly preparing for battle even at the risk of being dubbed a pessimist.

It is true that people who insist on hewing to the line of reality are seldom extremely popular. They too often have to follow the line of greatest rather than least resistance. They are forever chucking overboard programs and lines of action in whose value they no longer believe, regardless of the interests that may be involved, and they refuse to join "movements," however alluring the purpose, which are foredoomed to failure. They fire subordinates whom it is better to fire but easier to keep, winnow the grain of truth from the eager-to-please reports of sycophants, decline to be drugged with specious argument or pleasant prophecy.

Still they are seldom "hard-boiled" in the generally accepted sense of the term. By the very nature of the characteristic under discussion they are just, and while justice can sometimes be very disagreeable while being administered, you are forced to respect it. Then, too, the general benefits which accrue to the race through the careers of these straight traveling individuals cause history to record only their accomplishments, and ignore the yelps of those of their contemporaries who got in their way.

CHICAGO SCHOOLS BROADCAST SHELTERBELT PROGRAM

Using material furnished by the Project, Miss Emilie Utteg, who directs the Radio Council of the Chicago Board of Education, recently prepared a 15-minute radio script entitled "In the Shelter of the Shelterbelt." The script was written especially for the seventh grade and was broadcast September 15.

The show employs five characters and is very well done. Essentially it is a sort of round-table discussion between a "reporter" and two boys who have returned from summer vacation, with a couple of Kansas farmers chiming in at intervals. It makes out a swell case for the Shelterbelt program and does it in a highly interesting manner.

KANSAS SHELTERBELT ASSOCIATION LAUNCHED

The Kansas State Shelterbelt Association is finally a reality. This development among the leaders in shelterbelt planting occurred in actual form on August 21 at Great Bend in connection with the second state-wide shelterbelt picnic.

The idea for a Kansas State Shelterbelt Association originated with Mrs. Mamie Axline Fay, a life long resident of Kansas and of Pratt County and the owner of our first shelterbelt. Over a year ago Mrs. Fay began talking of ways by which the shelterbelt cooperators might unite on a State level to work for and promote the welfare of the PSFP and related forestry activities of concern in the State and Nation. Other people united with Mrs. Fay in the movement and when it was decided to hold the second state-wide shelterbelt picnic at Great Bend, an increase in interest in the Association occurred.

Mrs. Fay prepared a first draft of a proposed constitution and with the help of other leaders in other counties this constitution was drafted in a tentative form and presented at the first meeting. Representatives from fourteen counties went over the constitution at Great Bend, made some suggestions for changes and voted to adopt the constitution. Officers consisting of Mrs. Fay, President; Charles Hornbaker, Vice President; and Ed H. Hodgson, Secretary-Treasurer, were elected. The several counties met in county caucus and elected a representative to serve on the advisory council. The advisory council then met and selected five from their number to be on the Board of Directors. All of this occurred in about one hour.

The constitution sets forth the objectives of the Association, prescribes the dues of 25 cents per family per year, provides for the officers and organizational plan. Every county is entitled to have a member on the advisory council and such members are to be elected by the individual counties at an annual county shelterbelt association meeting. The Board of Directors and the State Officers have to perfect some by-laws for county associations.

The State Association will give a more vital state sponsorship to shelterbelt planting and establishment and general forestry. The Association will constitute an endorsement of the work and will be a strong recommendation to all farmers in our planting area to pay more attention to the values that trees can bring to the agricultural economy of the State and Nation. The provision in the constitution for county shelterbelt associations to meet annually and to further the work of the State Association in the several counties may be the source of very direct assistance in solving some of the problems that we are called on to face. One very practical type of assistance by the county associations might be the pooling of resources in the form of cash by the shelterbelt owners and others so that tree planting machines may be provided to insure the yearly program of planting in the county.

Another significant possibility of the county association in addition to the state-wide possibilities is the endorsement of the program of shelterbelt planting as a part of the agricultural economy of the county. The fact that the shelterbelt cooperators meet once a year in a county-wide meeting to discuss and work for the welfare of the shelterbelt program within the county will have a great effect on the thinking of other residents. It will focus the attention of all of the people within the county on the importance of shelterbelts and the value of trees.

Members of the State Association will be interested in the broader aspects of the national forestry movement. It will be the purpose of the State Association to further all worth-while forestry undertakings. The general interest of people of Kansas in the whole forest situation will almost surely be enlarged and developed because of the Shelterbelt Association movement.

The place of leaders located in the counties and out on the farms has always seemed to me to be very important. The Association should help vitalize the whole effort of leaders in relation to the forestry work in this State. The Association seeks to have more than 40 counties with designated county leaders named, and at the first meeting of the Board of Directors they propose to appoint representatives in the various counties to serve until such time as the county association meetings can be held and representatives and county leaders properly elected.

The Kansas State Shelterbelt Association wants to further the organization of similar associations in other States where the PSFP operates. Copies of the Kansas constitution will soon be available and can be furnished members of the PSFP organization who desire them.

- T. Russell Reitz, Kans.

DISTRICT FORESTER COLLECTS SHELTERBELT BON MOTS

J. E. Longsmoor, of Oklahoma, makes a practice of keeping his ears open when cooperators are talking, in order to pick up any gems of thought which may be expressed regarding the shelterbelt planting program. He jots these down, asks the farmer if he may quote him, and if so he has something tangible upon which to hang his next news release. Needless to say, a testimonial by a farmer is worth a dozen by the Forest Officer himself.

"WHAT THIS COUNTRY NEEDS..."

While working for the Forest Service the past seven years, I have always been assigned a considerable distance from Washington, my home state, and on vacation trips home with my family, we have attempted to follow different routes of travel. Also we have traveled out through the East while being assigned in Michigan. In this way our travels have covered most all of the possible northern routes across the United States as well as along the east coast and from North Dakota to Texas. One of the highway improvements which our family has noticed as being desirable on all routes across the country is the establishment of roadside picnic areas.

Of course there are fine parks in some towns which are available if one cares to search them out, but the crying need for the traveling public is the sign "Roadside Table, 1000 feet." In our travels across the country, we make a practice of having our noonday meal along the road somewhere in the shade (and there are many who do the same). Near noon we secure any necessary supplies such as fresh milk, fruit, bread, etc., and then drive on in search of a suitable place to lunch. The three kids like to stop and romp, and incidentally we enjoy our lunch more when we don't have to keep the kids tamed down in a restaurant. Throughout much of the country, places to get off of the highway are lacking, not to mention the lack of shady spots, especially in the Great Plains country. Michigan is the only State we have encountered in which this idea has been developed to any extent. Our national forests are no exception--such facilities along the highways are negligible.

The possibilities for quantity and for various types of development are unlimited and may consist of from merely two or three signs and a picnic table to a complete playground and picnic area, depending on the local need as well as the traveling public need. The greatest need, as we see it, is for the simple roadside park of one or two tables with shade and a place to drive off the highway where youngsters can be out of danger. With the simple unit, maintenance would not prove to be a stumbling block in interesting a community or State in such development. There are manuals and handbooks full of details regarding such improvements, and the only controlling factors are the imagination and of course the wherewithal to accomplish the job.

Within the territory of the Prairie States Forestry Project, I am certain that it would not be a difficult task to interest local organizations, communities, and State officials in such developments. Many of the shelter-belt plantings could be utilized. With the development and expansion of State Highway departments, maintenance and even construction of such facilities could be handled at a minimum cost. The Forest Service could develop such facilities in the National Forest areas, thus further extending the "use" of the forests to the traveling public. It would prove to be one more point to put over the story of "conservation and use" of our resources to the group of people who travel our highways, and at a minimum of financial outlay.

On a national basis, the Forest Service with its widespread activities is a logical organization to sponsor and promote such development. With

the post-war collapse of industrial production, it will be necessary to have a multitude of projects of every nature to absorb the shock of the decline in production of war materials until industry can convert to peace-time production. Here is one that I would like to toss into the pot.

- Lester D. Hansen, N. Dak.

"NEW FOREST FRONTIERS" RESPONSIBLE FOR LARGER
NEWSPAPER MAILING LIST IN SOUTH DAKOTA

In South Dakota our newspaper mailing list (in compliance with the postal regulations) is 28% higher than it was last year. We attribute the substantial and desirable increase to the publication New Forest Frontiers.

Since the scheme we used in connection with this publication apparently worked with South Dakota newspaper men, and since newspaper people are more or less constituted alike, we thought the method we used might be of value to the other states.

Toward the end of the fiscal year we send out the well-known cards to our newspapers, return of which will put them on our mailing list to receive our releases during the coming year. We send a letter along with the card explaining what it is all about, and suggesting that the editor sign and return it. Then in about three weeks we send a second letter (with cards) to those papers who have not returned their cards, as a sort of a salesmanship follow-up and in this second letter we suggest that doubtless the original was misplaced, overlooked, etc., etc.

Last year we received 79 cards from the first letter and 13 additional cards from the follow-up letter, or an increase of 16% from the follow-up.

This year we received 72 cards from the first letter. But we did something new about the follow-up - with the letter and card we enclosed a copy of "New Forest Frontiers." This follow-up brought in 46 new cards or an increase of 63% over those received as the result of the first letter. This fine increase can be credited to this publication because the only difference this year over last was the sending of the booklet with the follow-up letter. This difference is more pronounced than apparent at first glance. Analyze the increase this way. This year our returns from the original letter were 9% less than last year, but this year's returns from the follow-up letter (which was accompanied by this publication) were 353% higher than last year's follow-up letter. Putting returns from both the original and follow-up letters together, 28% more newspapers are receiving our news material this year than last.

We have noticed that a number of papers have been using short "squibs" taken from "New Forest Frontiers." This is solid proof that our newspaper people really like publications of this kind. It also indicates that good pictorial and narrative material on Forest Service matters of national concern helps us sell our program, which is more or less of only sectional concern.

This experience has given us a clue as to how we are going to handle this newspaper mailing list proposition next June. Undoubtedly there will be additional pictorial Forest Service publications coming along, and when we send out our mailing list cards and accompanying letters we are going to send along such a publication. Our experience indicates that is the way to get the cards back.

- A. L. Ford, S. Dak.

RESEARCHERS FIND WINDBREAK BENEFITS BEANS

In the May 1, 1941 issue of the Journal of Agricultural Research under the title "Drought Tolerance of Snap Beans" appears an article which at first glance most Plains foresters would conclude dealt with routine testing over a period of four years of several bean varieties, at the U. S. Horticultural Field Station at Cheyenne, Wyoming. To a large extent this is true, but the authors of the article digressed briefly in several paragraphs to describe the influence of a 5-year-old one-row windbreak on their 1937 plantings, which were specifically laid out so as to make it possible to measure the influence of this windbreak as well as testing for drought tolerance.

The 1937 plantings were laid out in replicate series of four blocks, the first block lying parallel to and starting 40 feet east of a north-south, one-row poplar windbreak, with the bean rows 25 ft. long running east and west. The isolation distance between blocks is not shown but judging from the picture which illustrates this particular installation it is estimated to be 8 ft. Thus the second plots started approximately 73 feet from the windbreak, the third 106, and the fourth 139. The height of the windbreak is not given but from personal knowledge it is judged to have been between 15 and 20 feet high. Thus all the bean blocks were within the 10-height zone of so-called intensive protection or influence.

Quoting from the article as to the results of the windbreak's influence, "The average yield for the 35 varieties and strains in the block nearest the windbreak was 5080 pounds, while the average for these same varieties and strains in the fourth block was 3859 pounds. The averages for the second and third blocks were 4758 and 4526 pounds, respectively. Since only 135 pounds is required for significance in this case all the differences between blocks are significant."

Since no comparable check plots were measured outside the windbreak's zone of influence the above data do not reveal the total increase in yield but it does show how the yield decreased as the distance from the windbreaks increased.

During a recent visit to the Cheyenne Station I discussed windbreak influence briefly with M. F. Babb, the senior author of the above-mentioned article. Babb stated that in spite of their influence on crop yield they had found windbreaks to be a "not unmixed blessing" insofar as garden crops are concerned. He pointed out that one year recently they had an early fall frost which damaged garden crops only within the intensive influence zone of windbreaks. He further mentioned that late spring frosts had been

observed to have a similar effect. However, he felt that gardeners could to some extent overcome this frost hazard by growing early-maturing or frost-resistant crops in the immediate lee of a windbreak and planting the later-maturing or less frost-resistant crops in the zone where less intensive protection is afforded.

- Harold E. Engstrom, R.O.

NEWS STORY OF THE MONTH
Madison (S. Dak.) Daily Leader

TREES DEFINITELY AFFECT CLIMATE

Shelterbelt May Make Difference Between a Good Crop, Failure

In a recent study the department of agriculture has definitely determined that trees do have some local climatic effects, depending on the density and extent of the forest stand, according to H. J. Martley, district forester of Madison.

Recent studies made in a jack pine stand indicate that wind velocity in some cases is reduced by as much as 70 percent. Evaporation of moisture is reduced by 40 percent.

Translated to plains forestry conditions it means that during a dry, windy season such as recently experienced, shelterbelts could very easily make the difference between a crop failure and raising a successful crop.

In the shelterbelt area where, under average conditions, every bit of the annual rainfall is needed to raise crops, 40 percent more moisture and 70 percent less wind behind tree windbreaks should enable farmers to more easily and successfully make a go of farming and should tend to eliminate many of the hazards that beset the farmer.

In order to extend the beneficial climatic effects beyond the local area of the tree belts, what is needed is a shelterbelt on every quarter section of land. It is believed that by establishing a series or pattern of shelterbelts that the beneficial effects would become more pronounced over a wider area.

KOTOK'S ENTHUSIASM INSPIRES US

Assistant Chief Ed Kotok looked over shelterbelt work in Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska and South Dakota on his way east with Mrs. Kotok. Ed met all the State Directors and many other members of the personnel during his short stay on the Project. All who met him were greatly impressed by his enthusiasm about the work and its potentialities for benefiting people. He left many fine ideas, and we are all looking forward to a return trip. As Jim Kyle said, "You know, he thinks about this Project just about like we do." Everyone was mighty happy to meet Mrs. Kotok, who is a daughter of the Plains, having lived at Crete, Nebraska, up to the mature age of nine months, and who saw many of her relatives while at Lincoln. She also was greatly interested in the Project and helped inspect the Hutchinson nursery.

IN DEFENSE OF UNDERCUTTING

So often we are forced to admit that what we don't know about tree culture would make a big book. But opportunities to learn more never cease knocking, and we think we know what the old Dutchman meant when he said, "The more I liff--the more I find by gosh out."

It so happens I've been trying to find out more about late summer undercutting of hardwoods, the same idea Carl Taylor was tinkering with in August PLAINS FORESTER. At the outset, I should mention that my experiments were prompted more from a standpoint of repressing intended carry-over stock than with an idea of effecting better root development. But since the treatments and subsequent behavior of stock are much the same for either purpose, the thing might carry double in some respects. We at least expect to learn something in regard to feasibility of undercutting for root development even though we are primarily undercutting some stock to hold it down to our size. And we hope that Karl Ziegler reads this, too, so he'll know that with Taylor getting on to these new tree vitamins which will grow root-sprouts on a walking stick, and us here at Fremont trimming roots as well as tops, those wished-for Garden-of-Eden trees are practically on their way.

Anyway, for several weeks now we have been watching trees grow that "hadn't ought to," and others not growing that should. On August 25 we undercut a few rows of fall-sown 1-0 hackberry and green ash. High temperature for the day was 76 degrees. A U-blade digger was used with lifter removed and blade set to run flat--no tilt--and cut at 8 inches below ground line. To effect a quick, clean cut the tractor was driven at maximum speed in second gear. No lifting or disturbing of soil was noticed, but to seal the vertical cuts made by the digger, the tractor was driven back over each row with front wheels straddling the cut row.

Wilting of newest growth occurred almost immediately on some of the ash. Hackberry did not show wilt so much but had turned a darker green by evening. The undercut stock was not irrigated until 24 hours later, so they'd be sure to know they had been tampered with. Although final results of the experiment will not be known until next summer, a number of interesting occurrences have thus far been noticed. Only about ten percent of the stock showed much wilting. Half of these lost all foliage in the next few days. Branch and stem ends on some hackberry died back from two to six inches. No dying back of stem tips occurred in the ash. By digging up several specimens it was found that those trees having lost all foliage were of the large taproot kind, and those showing little or no wilt had more lateral roots and no pronounced taproot. All of which was more or less as expected but it also shows that from the standpoint of root-pruning for root development--those trees needing it the most can stand the treatment the least.

At the time this is written--10 days since undercutting--the treated stock shows definite signs of new growth, both leaves and roots. And we are safe in assuming the treatment will not be the immediate cause of death of any of this stock. What an early freeze might do to stock newly leafed out this late is still anybody's guess. One other thing noticed was that

hackberry roots showed quite a little root rot before new root growth had started. This may or may not be serious, more likely not.

Root pruning to stimulate side root development of intended 1-0 planting stock should, theoretically, give better results if done as soon as young seedlings become woody, and before hot weather. For by waiting until hot weather is past there is hardly sufficient time for stock to overcome the shock, do much in the way of root-spreading, and safely harden-off before frost. But Taylor says his trees died when he tried undercutting early in the summer, so apparently we need some more experimentation on this subject.

- M. K. Meines, Nebr.

SECRETARY ESTABLISHES OFFICE OF AGRICULTURAL DEFENSE RELATIONS

At the request of the President, the Secretary has established an Office of Agricultural Defense Relations whose responsibilities are to:

Serve as a clearing house to bring into common focus the consideration of agricultural needs and problems as they relate to the defense program;

Facilitate the coordination of defense operations carried on by the various bureaus and agencies of the Department of Agriculture;

Assist the Secretary in the maintenance of effective channels of communication between the Department of Agriculture and the several agencies of the Office for Emergency Management, the Departments of War and Navy, and other defense agencies with respect to problems of procurement, production, priorities, price, labor supply and transportation;

Assist in the planning of adjustments in the agricultural program in order to meet defense needs.

In order for the Office of Agricultural Defense Relations to function effectively as the Department's clearing house on defense matters, the Secretary asked each of the Bureaus and agencies of the Department to name a liaison officer to work with the new office. The Acting Chief has named Mr. George W. Trayer to serve in this capacity for the Forest Service. Mr. Trayer is handling most of the defense activities in which the Service is engaged.

WE STILL HAVE A "KINDERGARTEN" EDUCATIONAL JOB

Ralph M. Horton, editor of "South Dakota Magazine" has asked State Director Ford to write an article on the shelterbelt program for an early issue of his magazine. He says, "The shelterbelt project in South Dakota, without question, has proved to be one of the most popular projects in the state. I don't know of a person who wouldn't like to see this project made permanent."

One of the interesting things about Horton's letter is a number of questions which he suggests be answered in the article, things that are so commonplace to us we are likely to forget that perhaps they are still pretty much of a mystery to many people. Some of the questions are "What has to be done to get a shelterbelt on a farm? What type of trees are most adaptable? Couldn't fruit trees be used so that the farmer could receive a crop of fruit? The trees are planted very thick--will they eventually be pruned and thinned? What parts of the state have the most shelterbelts?"

It is a good thing people remind us occasionally that we still have an educational job in connection with even the most simple and fundamental aspects of the program.

- E. L. Perry, R.O.

TREE-SCARRING PREVENTATIVES

In rigging up tractors for digging operations, wrapping the toolbar with old burlap to prevent scarring the trees has been used with some success. A more effective and longer-wearing protection is provided by cutting sections of three-inch pipe in lengths corresponding to the exposed portions of the toolbar. As loose sleeves, they present a round surface to the tree stems, and when there is considerable pressure in passing they roll along the tree stems passing them with a minimum of injury. Two-inch pipe on the $1\frac{1}{2}$ x $1\frac{1}{2}$ " gauge wheel bars of the Minneapolis-Moline tractors is similarly used.

Curved metal guards for the underslung A frame were found satisfactory but it is difficult to describe them briefly.

- Carl A. Taylor, Nebr.

COOPERATION PLUS

The other day I received a card in the mail from one of my cooperators which read something like this: "Dear Sir; The watermelons by the shelterbelt are ripe. Come on out and get your car full." Well I knew what he was talking about because every year that same spot of three or four acres alongside his good 1937 belt is reserved for the same purpose, so taking the wife along we drove out. The women visited while we loaded up the car and then we all sat down in the shade of the belt to enjoy the fruits of the cooperator's labor.

There's always something about eating that makes for good will and brings out the best there is in a man, so out of a blue sky he says, "Say, I want another belt next spring along my west line to connect up the two I already have." I went home with a full stomach, some melons in my car, and another belt to add to my '42 list. It was what I would call a middlin' satisfying day.

- Gaylord W. Hargadine, Kans.

SHELTERBELT FRUITS GOING TO WASTE

Recently during a trip into Nebraska Lou Matthew and I had the pleasure of sampling some of the wild plums in our shelterbelts. To me it was a real thrill to walk down a row of heavily laden plum bushes and taste the various flavored fruits that are available. The only "fly in the ointment" was the necessity of exercising a bit of caution as to one's capacity.

I was particularly struck by the large volume of fruit available for collection in some of our belts. It is no exaggeration to say that tons of fruit could be obtained with a minimum of effort. With such a large crop the farmers need to collect only a very small percentage to fill their own needs, and the remainder, of course, goes to waste. The commercial outlet for wild plum fruit is apparently quite limited or at least it is not developed to any great extent. To a large degree this may be due to the tendency of many American housewives to buy processed fruit in the form of sauces, jams and jellies, and thus avoid the work incident to canning or processing the raw product.

As far as I know there are no canners or packers who process the American wild plum, at least in this territory. With the thousands of tons of this fruit that will be available in our plantings in years to come it seems to me that perhaps this is a possible new industry that enterprising communities could promote, especially in our concentration areas. Wild plum butter and wild plum jelly is a delicacy that should appeal to the American palate in preference to the great variety of artificially flavored jams and jellies now stocking the grocers' shelves. Aside from this I venture the opinion that wild plum wine is not too bad, in fact I know of one of our nurserymen who can make plum wine that is far better than commercial brands - at least those I've been privileged to sample.

The plum is only one of several palatable wild fruits that we plant. Chokecherry, buffaloberry, and mulberry all may have latent commercial possibilities, particularly if available in quantity. This brings up another point, that of selecting the largest and most edible or palatable fruits of these various species for future nursery production. With our mass production we can go a long way toward improving the eating qualities of the fruit of future plantings of these species if we will only pay some attention to this feature at the time the seed is collected.

Using edible berry or fruit species for human consumption is of course only one of the possible commercial outlets for the fruits of our shelterbelt species. The gin industry uses a lot of juniper or cedar berries - our belts can supply the world's demand in just a few years. Maybe someone will come along with a walnut cracking and cleaning machine that will make it possible for people in this country to market their black walnut fruit at a profit. If so, our shelterbelts will in time supply thousands of bushels of walnuts.

Think of the countless tons of osageorange apples that fall to the ground and rot away every year. Who knows but what these may some day prove to be a source of a valuable medicine or perhaps a vitamin. They are bitter and poisonous, but then quinine doesn't taste good either.

Honeylocust, black locust, coffeetree, bur oak, Russian Olive, caragana all have fruits considered unfit for human consumption. However, maybe a chemist would find that they contain some valuable ingredients. Soybeans used to be valued only as a food, but look what Henry Ford is doing with them today.

- Harold E. Engstrom, R.O.

THERE IS PLENTY OF WORK TO DO

(The following is briefed from an article written by Max Pfaender, of the Oklahoma State Office.)

Recently, Charles W. Eliot, 2nd, Director of the National Resources Planning Board, said: "I see also in this after-Defense period a possibility of shifting the tremendous energies now concentrated on Defense into a great constructive program - a great landscape program remaking the landscape of this country on a colossal scale. The possibilities are so tremendous that we ought to be bending our energies to making plans now, developing public support for such a program. A tremendous program in the air, or rather 'on the boards,' is the relandscaping of huge sections of the country through land use programs, reforestation on a scale hitherto unheard of, flood control, and reallocation of lands now devoted to a few major crops."

In the stabilization or rehabilitation of the economic status of the Plains States, in addition to numerous other needs there are a number of definite needs for various types of forestry or tree culture. A number of these are here briefly discussed:

1. In order to protect properly each 80-acre field in this area where trees will grow and are needed, an additional estimated 212,000 miles of shelterbelts are required. All will agree that shelterbelts constitute the backbone or framework of any complete farm forestry program for this section, but planning would also include farmstead plantings to protect gardens, orchards and feedlots, post and erosion control plantings, reservoir, creek, lake and river bottom plantings, and other special purpose plantations.
2. There is also need for the rehabilitation and management of millions of acres of Black Jack land and similar areas. This would be a tremendous undertaking, but if properly planned and carried out would contribute no small part to a general uplift in such areas. A large amount of federal funds is required now to support the populations of these areas, but with a 25- or 50-year master plan, using the same amount of money for a permanent solution, it is believed that no further subsidies will be needed after a certain period.
3. Forest woodlands and range development or purchase projects. - Such activities also would require careful planning and execution. It would involve a number of the more recent methods of community development and management. The aim should be to determine the number of persons each project will support and then to assist them in becoming self-supporting.

4. A huge project in planting living snow and sand barriers for roads and highways could be developed in cooperation with federal, state, and county highway authorities. The need is great and the benefits in dollars and cents to the tax payer as well as to the farm owners would be enormous. While not claiming to be a prophet, I feel that in the not too distant future such a project will be launched and conducted on a large scale.

5. The community and county forest phase of forestry in the Prairie States is still in its infancy. But the time is soon coming when it will be a lusty youngster with rapid growth, especially if we stop to realize the great need for such forests. Numerous benefits will be reaped from such projects by their sponsors and by the citizens of communities where located. Aside from some revenue, such forests will also provide recreation, local water conservation, and employment during periods of stress.

6. There is great need for one or more large-scale tree experiment stations in the Prairie States, not on the meager scale of present experimental forestry or arboricultural testing plots found at a few scattering stations, but on a scale more on the order of the Nebraska National Forest. Among other requirements in this connection is a research project on a large scale in the Black Jack type to determine the most desirable kind of management.

A number of other worth-while forestry activities could be mentioned, such as enlarged school-ground planting programs, borders around water supply reservoirs, special wildlife tracts, etc.

All forestry agencies, as well as interested individuals, should continue to enlarge their cooperation with land use planning authorities, soil conservation districts, and other agricultural improvement groups. They should continue to furnish technical forestry leadership and to make every effort to obtain recognition by the public of forestry as one of the fundamentals for a permanent agriculture in the Great Plains region.

FATHER DOING NICELY, TOO

I wonder how many members of the PSFP organization have pulled their hair and chewed their finger nails trying to answer the question, -What subject matter can I discuss for PLAINS FORESTER this month? In my case the subject matter, at least for the time being, is not such a problem. However it was contemplated that this article would have been submitted at a somewhat earlier date.

To those of you who have been holding your breath - as some folks accuse us in Oklahoma - relax. The long anticipated event took place at 5:42 A.M. on September 9, 1941 at Enid, Okla. Mrs. Wilbur and baby, named Mary Louise, are doing nicely.

Cigars may be had by personal contact (no more deliveries since the lid has been clamped down on that all important item - travel) while they last.

- Edwin C. Wilbur, Okla.

ROYALTY HEARS OF US

A greeting from Miss Margaret March-Mount, mailed from Ottawa, Canada, says that she has been having a royal good time weaving tree consciousness into the international consciousness. She says that "everywhere there is top interest in the shelterbelt." After Miss March-Mount's talk before the Associated Women of the World, at Ottawa, the international president, Mrs. Alfred Watt, evinced much interest in shelterbelt planting and asked for more information about the PSFP.

The Dominion press gave wide publicity to the "pen pals and pine pals" plan after Miss March-Mount had explained it in her talk, and the Federal Forester called on her and told of the things along that line they are doing to educate children in forestry. Princess Alice, at a tea in Citadel, Quebec, asked about women and forestry, and commended the "pine pal" plan. Present at the luncheon were Her Royal Highness, Lady Alice, Canada's first lady, wife of the Governor General, Earl of Athlone, and her daughter Lady May Abel-Smith. Miss March-Mount says she was "elevated to the peerage" - from being the "Tree Lady" she is now "Lady Tree."

Miss March-Mount attended a luncheon given by Lady Perley, also a U. S. Ambassador's tea. One of the high lights, she says, was presentation to Her Royal Highness, Princess Juliana, of the Netherlands.

- Edna K. Dundis, R.O.

WE GREET AN OLD-TIMER

What a treat it was to have Ray Ward, formerly with this Project, and now Fiscal Agent for Region 10, spend a day with us while en route to Washington on detail. Ray had a set of slides with him, and the Regional Office closed shop for a 45-minute show. We felt much better acquainted with the beauties of Alaska and had a greater understanding of its industries and activities after viewing scenes of the territory in their natural coloring. Ray's way of explaining the slides added much to our enjoyment of them.

Open house was held at Dave Olson's in the evening, affording an opportunity to old friends to chat with Ray and Mrs. (Maizie) Ward.

EX-SHELTERBELTER BECOMES KANSAS STATE FORESTER

Donald P. Duncan, who was in charge of the shelterbelt work at Meade, Kansas, for approximately one and one-half years, has been employed as instructor in Forestry, Department of Horticulture, Kansas State College. He will also serve as State Forester.

Since leaving the Project in December, 1940, Don has been employed at the Southern Forest Experiment Station, Harrison, Arkansas, on the Upper White Flood Control Survey. He also spent considerable time on the Ashe Nursery Project, Southern Pine Nursery, in the State of Mississippi.

Don's employment in forestry work at the college will permit Richard C. Johnson, former subdistrict officer at St. John, to put in his full time as Extension Forester.

John D. Hall, Kans.